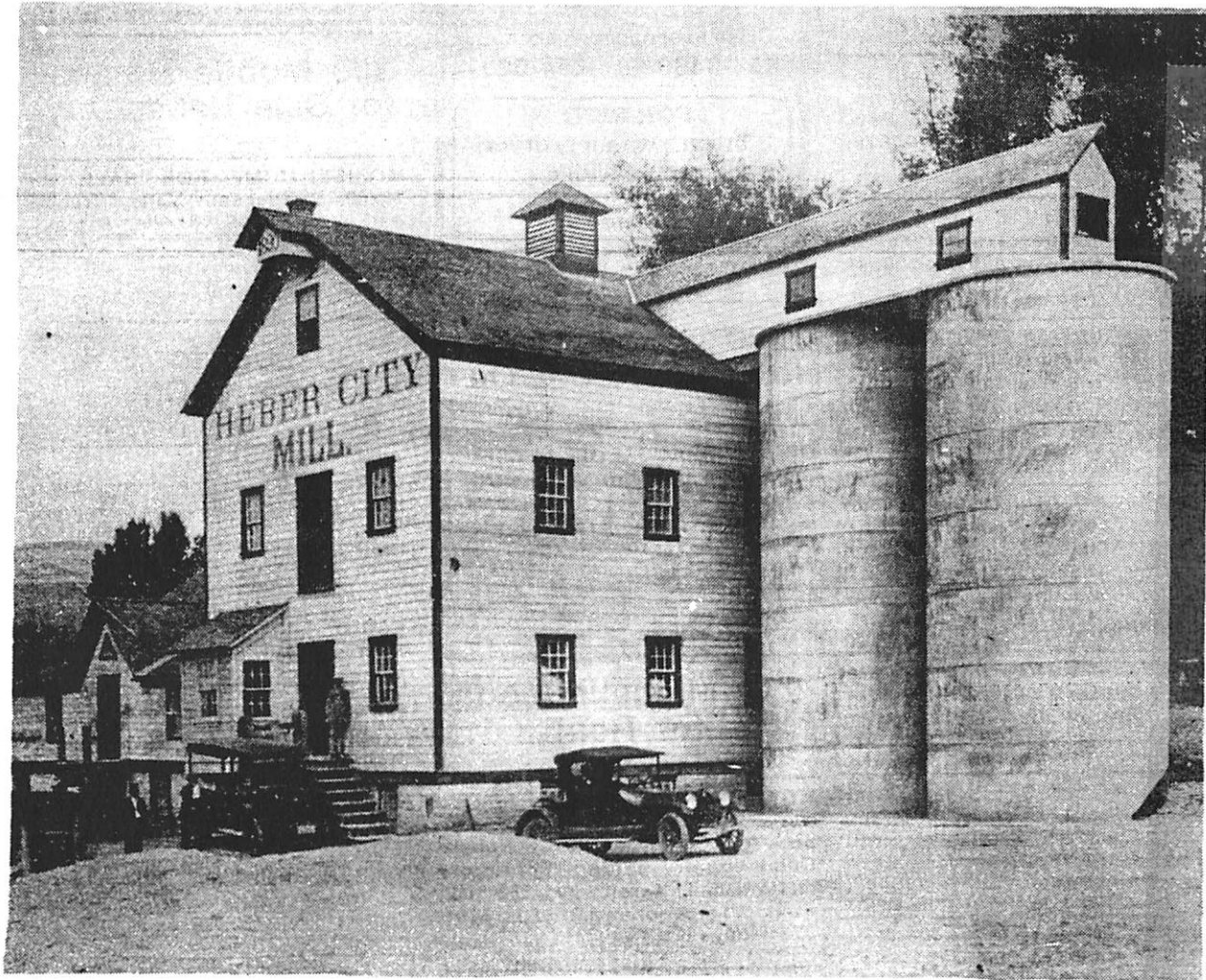


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The old Heber City Mill.

—Submitted by Art Whitehead

York were married on her (Nancy's) wedding day, at Provo, by James E. Snow.

Ephraim's parents crossed the plains to Utah in 1850. His mother walked the entire distance, because she was afraid of buffalo stampeding through the wagon trains.

In 1860, Ephraim and Nancy, with their family, moved to Heber City, where they built a log cabin and later a large cabin used as a fort to protect women and children. Indians were very bad. They stole cattle and horses and then brought them back, demanding money for them. They stole and returned one of Ephraim's horses five times. The last time he refused to give them money.

This condition finally became intolerable, so the matter was taken up with Brigham Young by Ephraim Smith, who stated that it was absolutely necessary that something be done to stop this depredation. A meeting between the whites and Indians was called. Chief Tabby and some of his braves came in and camped at Ephraim's place. Nancy and other women cooked for them.

At the meeting the Indians were told that if they did not stop stealing, the settlers would have to call out the soldiers and the Indians would be killed. The Indians agreed not to steal any more and the "peace pipe" was passed to all present.

Ephraim had the first and only tannery in Heber. He learned his trade in Tennessee before coming to Utah. He stripped bark from oak trees in the canyons near Heber and hauled to the tannery. He used the Hopper mill to grind the bark, the first mill used to grind flour for the Smiths and others and was the only flour mill for some time. Mr. Smith employed five men at his tannery, making harnesses and shoes and mending shoes. He also made fiddles and violins.

When the Salt Lake Temple was started he sent a team to help in the work and he hauled sandstone rock from Heber for the foundation. He used a spirit level to level a canal which brought water from Provo River into the valley for irrigation purposes.

They were the parents of 12 children: David Ephraim, Hetty Esther Ann, Millie Jane, Joseph Marion, William Albert, James Andrew, Sarah Dinah, Thomas Edward,

EPHRAIM AND NANCY ELIZABETH BETHERS SMITH



Ephraim Smith was born in September, 1833, in Tennessee, son of Richard and Diana Bragtal.

He married Nancy Elizabeth Bethers on September 28, 1852, and they were parents of 12 children.

Ephraim died on December 28, 1898.

Nancy died on September 4, 1931.

She was a daughter of Zadock S. and Sarah Collins Bethers. She moved to Council Bluffs and was there six years before leaving for Utah in the fall of 1852 with her parents in the Joseph Cuthouse company.

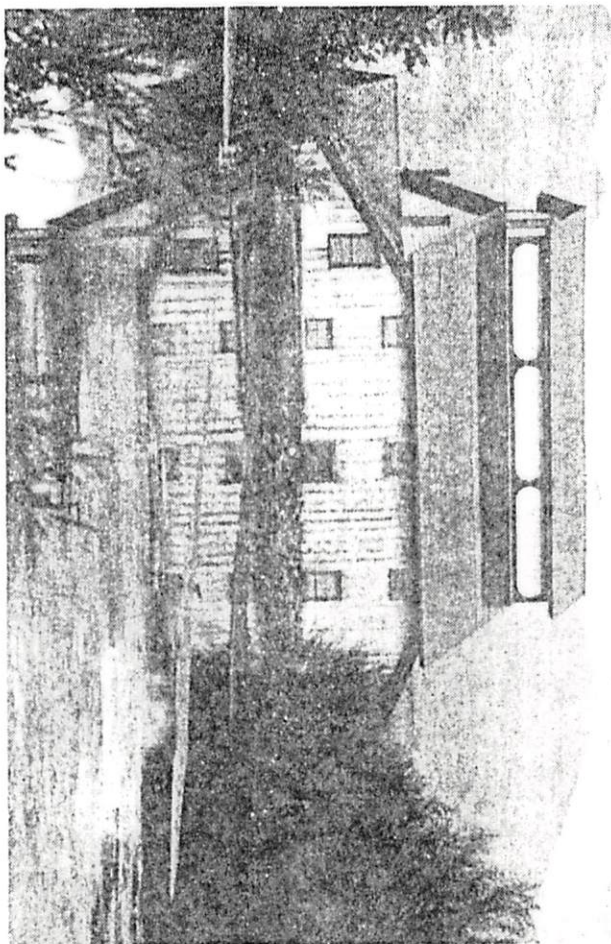
Sarah Collins Bethers, the mother, was a weaver, so she brought her spinning wheel and looms, also wool, yarn and thread. Sarah and her daughters, Mary Jane and Nancy Elizabeth, carded the wool, spun thread and wove cloth from which clothing for all the family was made. Pioneers around St. George planted cotton and flax from seed they brought with them, and they sent some of these products to the weavers in Heber to be used in weaving cloth.

Nancy's sister, Mary Jane, and Asa B.

In about 1861
William Reynolds used his "Burr
Chopping Machine" to chop
wheat to make a course "mush".
Ref. Tallidge Vol. II p. 149

Under Wasatch Skies
INDUSTRY

William Reynolds set up a mill in the winter of 1861. He hired John Jordan to cut a pair of small burrs which were then set in a frame. This in turn was run by the



Early Flour Mill

horse power of a threshing machine. Each family could only get half a bushel of grain ground at a time into what was called chopped feed or graham flour. The grist mill ran day and night to supply everyone.

The flour turned out by Reynolds' mill was soon supplemented by that from John Van Wagoner's grist mill, which was built on the Snake Creek in the winter of 1861-62. Later, flour mills were built by Brigham Young, Jr., in 1865, and by Mark Jeffs.

FLOUR MILLING

Initial attempts at grain raising in the county produced a harvest of partially shriveled wheat in September 1859. This wheat and the harvest of the next two years had to be arduously hauled to Provo for grinding. Occasional relief was had by resorting to grinding with coffee mills or simply boiling the whole wheat. "Mush, mush, mush was all we had in those days," said John Crook.¹

¹"History of Wasatch County," op. cit., p. 12.

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CHAPTER XI INDUSTRY

In the early history of Wasatch County, industry was of two types. The first was that necessary to provide living essentials: food, shelter, and clothing. This type of industry has now largely disappeared from the scene and its gradual disappearance is one of the factors marking the end of the pioneer era. The second type of industry was that dependent upon the rich natural resources of the county and includes lumbering, stock raising, and mining. This chapter will trace the development of these two types of industry and their significance in the lives of the people of Wasatch County. We will first consider the pioneer industries.

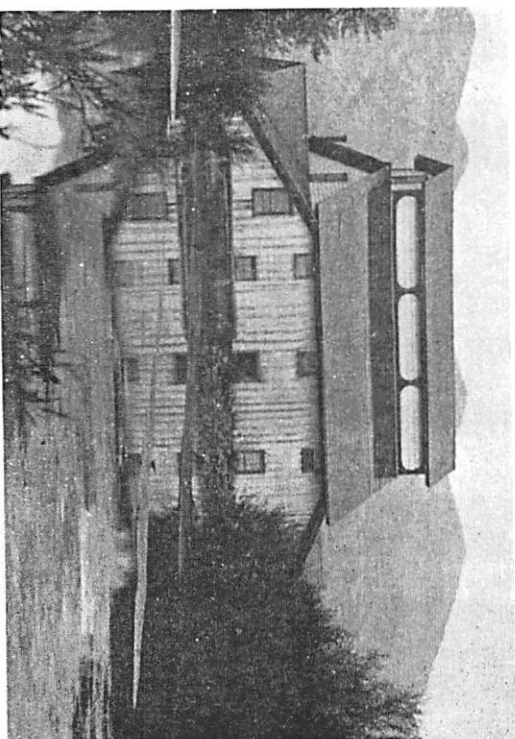
CLOTHING

As has been earlier noted, most wearing apparel was homemade. The sheep herds of the county produced much good wool for clothing. William Aird was the community weaver in Heber and made cloth which was a combination of local wool and imported cotton yarns. The leather for shoes was supplied by a tannery built in 1872.

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CHEESE

In the mid-sixties a large immigrant company of Swiss arrived in Midway. These families—the Hubbers,